



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*



**HOUSE BILL NO. 4516**

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**Introduced by Representative Howard A. Guintu**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article II, Section 15 of the Constitution states that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them". This provision establishes the fundamental duty of the government to safeguard public health and ensure access to adequate medical services.

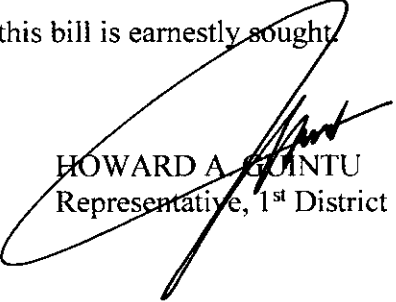
However, this mandate is challenged by the inadequacy of existing hospital facilities and the geographic realities in the 1<sup>st</sup> District of Capiz.

With a projected 2025 population of 449,536, the 1<sup>st</sup> District of Capiz has only one Level 1 government hospital. The Bailan District Hospital (BDH), located in the Municipality of Pontevedra has an approved bed capacity of 50 and an implementing capacity of 80, resulting in a 113.25% bed occupancy rate.

Unfortunately, BDH cannot be expanded due to tenurial constraints on the land it occupies, making physical infrastructure improvements and capacity augmentation unfeasible. Consequently, patients from the same municipality and neighboring towns in need of advanced or specialized care are forced to seek treatment at the only Level 2 public hospital in the province, located in Roxas City, which itself operates at a 151.82% occupancy rate.

The proposed **Capiz District Hospital, a 200-bed district hospital** under the Department of Health, will address these gaps by providing comprehensive medical, surgical, emergency, and preventive services. Strategically located in Pontevedra, it will decongest existing hospitals, improve health outcomes, and ensure timely access to quality healthcare for residents of Capiz. By establishing this medical center, we not only strengthen the province's health system but also fulfill our constitutional obligation to protect and promote the health of the people.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
HOWARD A. GUINTU  
Representative, 1<sup>st</sup> District of Capiz



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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PONTEVEDRA, PROVINCE OF CAPIZ, TO BE KNOWN AS THE CAPIZ DISTRICT HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

**SECTION 1. Establishment of the Capiz District Hospital.** – There is hereby established a district hospital under the direct control and supervision of the Department of Health (DOH) in the Municipality of Pontevedra, Province of Capiz, to be known as the Capiz District Hospital.

The hospital shall initially have a capacity of 200 beds (level 2 hospital), inclusive of the necessary healthcare facilities, medical equipment, and professional health care services to provide quality and accessible medical and surgical care to the residents of the First District of Capiz and neighboring municipalities.

**SEC 2. Services.** - The Hospital shall provide comprehensive and inclusive medical services, including but not limited to:

- (a) Outpatient and inpatient care;
- (b) Emergency and trauma services;
- (c) Surgical and obstetric services;
- (d) Maternal, neonatal, and child healthcare;
- (e) Diagnostic, laboratory, and imaging services;
- (f) Preventive and promotive health programs; and
- (g) Other essential services as may be determined by the DOH.

**SEC. 3. Future Expansion.** – Any future increase in bed capacity, healthcare facilities, service capability, and human resource complement shall be based on the hospital development plan that shall be prepared by the DOH.

**SEC. 4. Appropriation Clause.** – The Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the Department’s program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

**SEC. 5. Separability Clause.** – If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 6. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, executive orders, issuances, and rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 7. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.